

INFLUENZA ON WANE, TUESDAY REPORTS SHOW

New Cases and Deaths Lowest Now for More Than Two Weeks

ENFORCING MASK LAW

Police Arrest 453 Violators Second Day; One Recalcitrant Gets Jail Term

Influenza in San Francisco is on the wane, according to reports from the Health Office.

Up to 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon only twenty-two deaths from the disease and 183 new cases were reported. Of the cases 78 were phoned and 105 came by mail. These figures are the lowest in more than two weeks.

It was predicted yesterday at the Board of Health that within another week the number of cases and deaths from influenza will be cut 50 per cent due to the use of masks. In two weeks the epidemic is expected to be brought under such control that it will only be a matter of a short time before it is stamped out.

Cases in the Richmond District have dropped so rapidly during the past three days that Rev. C. M. Thomas of the Congregational Church announced yesterday that the Clement-street relief station would be closed at once.

Board of Health reports for the last seven days are as follows:

	New Cases.	Deaths.
January 15.....	510	50
January 16.....	528	42
January 17.....	519	39
January 18.....	412	25
January 19.....	400	16
January 20.....	366	46
January 21.....	183	22

*Masks on.

JAIL FOR ONE OFFENDER

One place has been found in San Francisco where influenza masks need not be worn, the City Prison.

Chief of Police D. A. White said yesterday that hearty welcome and free lodgings await those unalterably opposed to the use of gauze face coverings. During the two days the law has been operative quite a few unwillingly have taken advantage of Chief White's offer.

The first man to evince joy over being able to live in a place where mask wearing is not compulsory appeared before Police Judge T. I. Fitzpatrick yesterday. He is Frank Cocciniglia, railroad man, who was arrested on Kearny street Monday night by Policeman William Casey. Cocciniglia told Judge Fitzpatrick he did not feel like wearing a mask and was not disposed to do anything not in harmony with his feelings. He was sent to jail for five days.

"That suits me," declared Cocciniglia as he left the stand. "I won't have to wear a mask there."

Yesterday's arrests for violation of the mask ordinance totaled 453. On Monday 186 were taken into custody. The majority of those arrested were released on \$5 bail.

A long list of cases for violating the mask law was called in Police Judge Fitzpatrick's court yesterday, but only a small number appeared, the majority forfeiting their bail. In almost every case a fine of \$5 was imposed. Many were released on their own recognizance, with the stipulation that they contribute to the fund for providing motor transportation for medical relief workers in the epidemic. This fund so far has been enriched to the extent of \$125, while the bail forfeitures turned over to the city amount to \$275.

Attractive colored masks daily are becoming more the vogue among women in San Francisco, many appearing on the streets in daintily-trimmed face coverings. When the epidemic first developed here the plain gauze masks almost were exclusively worn.

Dr. William C. Hassler, City Health Officer, went to Sacramento yesterday at the request of the local Health Board there to speak on the efficacy of the influenza masks.

PICTURE MEN SEEK REBATE

Moving-picture-house proprietors are preparing to protest against being charged \$25 for the last quarter for licenses. According to protests made to Tax Collector Edward Bryant, the moving-picture men assert they were forced to close one month on account of the influenza epidemic. They hold that the city imposes the license tax and also is responsible for their being forced to close. They ask that they be allowed a tax reduction for the month they were forced to close.